THE

# HISTORY

OF DOCTOR

# JOHN FAUSTUS;

Compyled in Verse; very pleasant and delightful.

Printed in the Year 1696.

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## TO the READER.

READER, I would not have you think,
That I intend to waste my ink,
While Faustus story I rehearse,
And do write his life in verse.
For seing Fryer Bacons story,
(In whom Oxford still may glory)
For want of better pen comes forth,
Compos'd in Ryme of no great worth,
I call'd my Muse to task and pen'd
Faustus life, and death, and end:
And when it cometh forth in print,
If you like it not, the devil is in't.

Veni, Vide, Vale.
Come, See, and have.
Doctor Faustus wretched state.

CHAP.

## CHAP. I.

*Of Doctor Faustus birth,*
*and how he gave his heart*
*To leave off fair Divinity,*
*to study the black Art.*

MY Muse, assist me now, for I intend
To write the life & death & fearful end
Of Doctor *Faustus*, whose ill gotten name,
May well compare with Fryer *Bacons* fame.
*Faustus* was born at *Rhodes*, which Town do
Within a Province of fair *Germany*;
His Father was a husband man, did live
On what the earth to him did freely give;
Yet he at *Wittenberg* an Uncle had,
Who tooke young *Faustus*, being but a Lad,
And sent him to the University,
That he might study there Divinity:
But he did quickly there addict his heart
To leave fair studies for the foul black Art.
Thus he in secret studied conjuration,
Yet being found by acts and disputation
To be well learned, they did all agree
To make him Doctor of Divinity.

t having once obtained that high degree
e ill deserved it, as you shal see,
For now my pen doth tremble for to tell,
How like a devil from all grace he fell,
For now his contemplation he did bend
To Negromancy, and much time did spend
In casting figures, making incantations,
With all the wicked helps of conjurations,
Leaving those studies which are most divine,
And to these hellish arts he did incline:
Therefore here have drawn his life, that you
May learn such wicked courses to eschew:
That we thus seeing him ruled by the devil,
May pray to be delivered from such evil.

## CHAP. II.

*How Doctor Faustus conjur'd up,*
*From out a globe of fire,*
*The spirit Mephostophiles,*
*that came like to a frier.*

Now Faustus purposing alone to try
The power of this his Magick mystery
did repair unto a little wood,
d not far off from *Wittenberg* it stood:
ere he did make a circle with his wand,
d thus with charms his spirit did command,
*Mephostophiles, I say,*
*quickly rise, and come away:*

*By Lucifer I charge the here,*
*that thou forthwith do appear.*

With this a murmure in the woods was heard
That Doctor *Faustus* was himself afear'd:
The wood with lightning seemed on a flame,
And loudest thunder terror did proclaim,
Till Doctor *Faustus* in his Magick robe,
Lookin about him spy'd a fiery globe:
And at the last from this same globe a fire,
The Spirit came in likeness of a Fryer:
Who lightly round about the circle ran,
And thus to speak to *Faustus* he began:

*Faustus, feyeth be, I now am come,*
*Speak thy will, and it is done.*

When *Mephostopiles* did thus kindly greet him
Then Doctor *Faustus* bid the spirit meet him
The next day at his house; the spirit did come
And back again then Doctor *Faustus* went.

## CHAP. III.

*How Doctor Faustus made*
*a Contract firm, not good,*
*To serve the Devil, which*
*he wrote with his own blood.*

THe time appointed, in a blustring day,
The spirit came to him, and thus did

*Mephostophiles* am ready now,
And thus to be your vassal I do vow:
Entreating you that you would let me know
What is your pleasure that you call me so?
*Faustus* herewith some questions did propone,
Which *Mephostophiles* did soon expone.
At last the matter did begin to frame,
And to these friendly articles they came,
That Doctor *Faustus* should a spirit be
Both in his outward shape and quality:
That he should be invisible to all,
And *Mephostophiles* ready at his call,
And whatsoever he did once command,
That he should bring it quickly to his hand,
And that he should at any time appear,
When once the voice of *Faustus* he did hear.
Thus *Faustus* did this black agreement make,
While that the spirit did for his masters take
These sad conditions, which would even fear
A tender hearted Christian for to hear,
Himself to his Lord *Lucifer* should give,
That Doctor *Faustus* while he now did live,
And for to make the contract firm, not good,
He did agree to write it with his blood;
Which in a Sawcer on the fire he set,
He in the same his wicked blood did heat.
And wrote therewith that he would always be
A foe unto all Christianity.
These sad conditions when that you do read,

I know that it will make your heart to bleed:
Yet wretched *Faustus* made himself the band,
And thereupon did set his desperate hand,
And to these covenants he gave consent,
Which after, though too late he did repent,
But being seal'd, he doth the same deliver
To *Mephostophiles* to keep it ever.
Thus by degrees he added sin to sin,
And now the practise he did first begin.

## CHAP. IV.

*How Faustus first began,*
*his cunning to assay;*
*And how his spirit did*
*in every thing obey.*

IT happened now that *Faustus* in the end
The devil with a question did offend:
Which was that he would know how God
The World & all things which it doth contain
But *Lucifer* not able this to tell,
Because himself from his creation fell,
Was with the Doctor very much displeas'd,
Nor could his anger quickly be appeas'd,
And therefore Lucifer to increase his fear,
ug'ly shape to *Faustus* did appear,
Wit others of his black infernal rout,
Who in an antick manner danc'd about,

Hereat poor Doctor *Faustus* was amaz'd,
And yet upon their hideous forms he gaz'd;
Thinking these troups of fury now were come
To fetch him thence before his glass were run,
Or ere his twenty-four years did expire;
During which time the spirit, like a Fryer,
Carrying a little bell within his hand,
Was bound to be still ready at command;
But afterward, when these same years did end,
Then *Faustus* should on *Lucifer* attend.
And now this fearful sadded operation,
Did fill his heart with grief and contrition:
But when that *Lucifer* perceiv'd his sadness;
He laughed out then for very gladness.
*Faustus* said he know well perceive,
That thou our first agreement would deceive,
Yet I would have you know it is in vain:
For no repentance can you purge again.
Beside you know, &therewith shewed his hand,
That to these covenants you have set your hand
And for to make this obligation good,
Your self hath write it with your own blood:
Be quyet then in mind, and take your rest,
For thou ere long must be great *Pluto*'s guest:
In the mean time to recreat thy leasure,
Sit down, & I will show thee some new pleasure.
So *Faustus* and the devil together sate,
But still he thought his company too hot.
Then *Lucifer* did other fiends command

For

For to appear, who straightway were at hand.
First came in *Belial* like to a Bear,
With flaming eyes, and shaggy rugged hair,
Then *Belzebub* came flying in with wings
Whose mouth was filled with a pair of stings,
Then came *Asteroth* of coal black hew,
And after him a serpents tail he drew.
Then *Chunigasto* lightly skipped in,
Who was attyred in a hedge-hogs skin,
At last came *Anobis* like to a dog,
And in his body shaped like a hog.
These ugly Maskers did themselves advance,
And in strange measures did begin to dance.
And as they did their several changes make,
Their threatning forks 'gainst *Faustus* they did
As if they meant at him to run a tilt, (shake
That *Faustus* thought his blood should then be
*Lucifer* seeing *Faustus* thus dismaid, (spilt.
Began to cheer him up, and thus he said,
*Faustus*, how dost thou like this nimble sport?
For with this company thou must resort
But *Faustus* sweating, thought it was hot weather,
Being afraid to see them altogether; (ther.
And did intreat his devilship that he
Would send away his fearful company;
At which great *Lucifer* dismiss'd them all,
Excepting seven of the principal.
Now *Faustus* having gotten breath again,
Did ask for *Mephostophiles* by name;

which

Which having spoken as he did desire,
Came *Mephostophiles* like to a Fryer:
Then *Faustus* to entreat his sp'rit began,
That he should teach him as himself had done
How to transform himself in any shape,
Either of dog, or lyon, cat, or ape,
With this great *Lucifer* gave him a book,
On which this *Faustus* did no sooner look,
But he to divers forms himself did change,
And throgh an hundred varied shapes did range
Sometimes like to a dragon, hog, or worm,
Then to a bat he would himself transform:
But at the last being changed to a man,
To sport himself great *Lucifer* began,
And sent a swarm of Bees, which to sting fell
Poor *Faustus*, that he thought himself in hell,
And to his spirit then he cry'd for wo:
While *Lucifer* went laughing thence, Ho, ho,
And having left tormented *Faustus* there,
As soon as he was gone, the day grew clear,
And sweetest Musick was to him convey'd,
Which cheared up his heart, though much di
maid.

## CHAP. V.

*How Doctor Faustus was carried through the air, That he might view the world, the Sky and Planets fair.*

AS *Faustus* lay one day upon his bed,
While divers fancies came into his head,
He did begin to vex himself, that Art
Could not the secrets of the Heavens impart:
For he had noted that their observations
Were not confirm'd by certain demonstrations,
Judging of things as Authors were inclin'd,
But yet in knowledge all of them were blind,
And thus while in his bed he musing lyes,
A sudden fearful wind began to rise,
That with the force thereof his house did rock,
And all the doors, as if they had no lock,
Did open fly, and then a voice he heard,
Which bid him rise and not to be afraid,
And he should see the sum of his desire,
And to the starry region should aspire,
And there the wonders of the world behold:
The earth, the sea, and all that they infold:
And then unto the airy region fly,
And see the Meteors both cold and dry.
*Faustus* at this same news was much refresht,
And thought himself in the discovery blest:
For thus the devil at the first began. (man,
When he with hope of knowledge tempted
*Faustus* now whom ambition did inflame,
Did answer to the spirit back again:
The wonders of the world I fain would see,
Which if thou faithfully wilt show to me,
Promise here that I will go with thee.

Which word once ſpoke he did ſtraight way
A wagó, which two fiery dragons drew, (view
And then the voice to him did ſay,
Get up with me, and let us both away.
Thus mounted on the wagon, forth they went
To view the world and upper firmament:
And as they thus did travel through the air,
His *Mephoſtophiles* did to him repair:
And ſitting in the Chariot hard by him,
To pleaſe his maſter, he this ſong did ſing.

*Come you ſpirits mount*
*upon your nimble wings,*
*And your chiefeſt notes*
*be ſure that you do ſing,*
*While my Fauſtus here and I*
*ſwiftly wander through the skies.*

*He will travel over mountains,*
*over Park, and over Pale,*
*Over Cities, and Steeples,*
*over hills, and over dale:*
*While my Fauſtus here and I*
*ſwiftly wander through the skie.*

*Then we will to Sea again,*
*and there laugh when we do hear*
*How the Mariners exclaim*
*when a ſudden ſtorm they fear,*

While

*While my Faustus here and I,*
*swiftly wander through the skie.*

*Faustus, thou shalt now be told*
*what thy self did most desire:*
*How the stars about are roll'd,*
*some are lower, some are higher:*
*All this shalt thou view, while I*
*wander with thee through the skie.*

THe song thus done which *Faustus* pleased
He did intreat his spirit now to tell (well,
The several Regions which they passed by,
Which *Mephostophiles* did not deny
Yonder, saith he, you see on your left hand
*Muscovia*, *Dursia*, and the *Saxons* land:
On the right hand, besides us here doth ly
*Europe*, *Asia*, the mid-land sea, with *Greece* and
*Hungary*,

Look yonder is the hot and torrid Zone,
And *Charles-wain* unto the Sea-man known:
Yonder is *Ursa Major*, which is but the same
With that which we call the *Charles-wain*.
Thus did he point him out each constellation
While *Faustus* strucken was with admiration
And having shown him all the earth at last
Upon his bed again he *Faustus* cast,
Whereas he thought on what before he saw,
And how the stars were govern'd by their la-

And hereby to such knowledge he did clime
That none was like to *Faustus* in his time;
And for Astrology, he was the best,
And in his art did far excel the rest.

## CHAP. VI.

*How Doctor Faustus would*
*sometime in a pleasent vein,*
*Show many rare conceits,*
*which did encrease his fame.*

IT chanced now that *Faustus* on a time
Did happen with the Emperor to dine,
Who did intreat that he himself would shew,
That thereby he might *Alexander* view
In such a shape as he did live on earth:
And furthermore for to encrease his mirth.
He did intreat him that he would present
His *Paramour* which bred his hearts content.
*Faustus* having heard the emperor said no more
But opened straight the privy chamber door,
And straightway in full figure there came
Great *Alexander* of renowned worth: (forth
And after him his beauteous *Paramour*,
Who made obeysance to the Emperour:
Who with kind salutation thoght to greet her.
But *Faustus* would not suffer him to meet her.
And after, through the door by which they
came,

They

They both of them did vanish back again,
Leaving the Emperor, who did commend
Great *Faustus* skill, and called him his friend,
But you shall hear of *faustus* tricks hereafter;
Which cannot choose but move you unto lau-
This being done, upon another time, (ghter,
When Doctor *faustus* did to mirth incline,
Walking among the Courtiers, he did spy.
Whereas a Knight did at a window ly,
With his head out of the window, so that he
was fallen asleep, which *faustus* soon did see:
And set a pair of Hart horns on his head,
So larger *Acteon* ne're was better spread:
But when the Knight did happen to awake,
Seing his horns, his head began to shake,
And thought he could pull in his head again,
But all his force and striving was in vain:
And he by no means could bring it to pass,
But with his horns he broke the panns of glas
And when the Emperor beheld this sight,
He and the Courtiers laughed all outright,
Until that *faustus* took his horns away,
with which the Emperor was pleas'd that day
But not long after this same injured Knight,
Did purpose that his wrongs he thus would
That meeting Doctor *faustus* on a plain (rig
He purpos'd he should nev'r go home again
But then the bushes he did arm again,
which came upon the knight like armed me

This the Knights malice *Faustus* did defeat,
And all that heard it laugh'd at this conceit.
Another time this *Faustus* did repair,
Like to a Horse-courser to a countrey fair:
And having pac'd his horse about a while,
A chap-man came to him which made him smile,
And askt his price, which *Faustus* did unfold,
And so his horse for fourty Dollars sold,
And charged him, whatsoever did betide,
That he into the water should not ride;
But the horse-courser, wondring at his word,
As he went home did ride into a ford,
And straight his horse did vanish quit away,
For he no more his horse or saddle saw:
But there was left upon a wad of straw.
The Horse-courser went back into his Inne,
And to enquire for *Faustus* did begin:
And finding him there sleeping on a bed,
He did begin to pluck him by the leg,
That he did pluck it off: then *Faustus* cry'd,
With open throat that he had murther'd him,
Whereat the Horse courser did now begin
To ask for mercy and away he went,
And for to lose his money was content.
It hap'ned Doctor *Faustus* on a day,
Met with a clown that drove a load of hay,
And asked him what he should give, in scoff,
That he might eat his belly full thereof:

The

The Clown did tell him that he should
For his three farthings eat ev'n what he would
It was agreed, and Doctor *Faustus* set
Himself to eat, and all his teeth did whet,
That the poor clown was sory, and did grutch
To see that *Faustus* did eat up so much:
For *Faustus* did the Countrey-man so blind,
He could not see the hay was left behind,
And therefore did intreat him very fair,
That *Faustus* would his load of hay yet spare.
Here at *Faustus* laughing went away,
And afterward the Clown had all his hay.

Doctor *Faustus* coming on a time
Unto a Tavern, which did sell good wine,
He found a company of drunkards there
Merrily drinking and so loud they were,
That Doctor *Faustus*, who this noise did hate,
Hearing them all thus loudly sing and prate:
At last whe they their words had newly spoke,
He them conjured that their mouths stood open
And this they gaping stodd at one another,
Not one was able for to speak to th' other.
In this amazed manner forth they came,
And then they all did shut their mouths again.
And hereby *Faustus* Art was much expresst,
And all the Town did laugh at this new jest.

Once Doctor *Faustus* did his friends invite,
Who Scholars were unto a supper light:

And afterward he did intreat each guest
(Meaning thereby to make a merry jest)
That they would take the pains with him to go
To a wine-celler which he would them show;
They all consented and not long they stay'd,
To the Bishops cellar they were all convey'd
There *Faustus* and the Scholars merry were,
But now the Butler put them in a fear,
Who coming hastily to draw some drink.
The Butler seeing them, did straightway think
They had been thieves, and so aloud did cry
For help: but *Faustus* still'd him by and by.
By the hair of the head he carry'd him,
Who now for fear to tremble did begin,
Untill unto a lopped tree he came
And there he left the Butler on the same,
And all the night, which was both sharp & cold
with both his hands he by the tree did hold:
Till in the morning when he did espy
The shepherds, he aloud to them did cry
who wondered much what man that should
who had thus climed on so high a tree.
But when this news unto the Bishop came,
The Bishop did go out to see the same, (ther
And asked him how that he was brought thi
The Butler that with cold did quake & quiver,
Did answer, that he certain thieves had found
In his wine cellar who were drinking round,
And by the hair of the head they did him
bring,
And

And left him in that case they found him in.
What ere they were, said he, I do not know:
If they were devils, they like men did show.

But 'tis not here my purpose to recite,
Or all the merry tricks of *Faustus* write,
Yet some of them I have related here:
But now his twenty four years drew near:
And though in pleasure he had spent his time,
The number of his years did now decline,
And all the spirits had a great desire,
To see when *Faustus* bond would once expire,
Since he was bound by that same bloody scroul
At twenty-four years end to give his soul
To *Lucifer*: the time now drawing nigh,
You must expect to hear his Tragedy.

## CHAP. VII.

*How* Faustus *when his time drew nigh, did make great lamentation: And to his fellow Students made his funeral Oration.*

The glass of *Faustus* time being almost run
Having but one month of his time to come,
He drew into a very pensive mood,
And now his fault he plainly understood:

And

And now began to curse that wretched time,
When he to study Magick did incline.
To hope for mercy now it was too late,
Which made him to deplore his wicked state
And his accusing conscience now did tell,
There was no way for him but down to hell,
And thus in waiting he his time did spend,
That little time which drew unto an end,
Now on the pains of hell he first did think;
The racks and tortures chains and filthy stink
How *Proserpine* would surely laugh to see
His soul tormented in this miserie.
Then he bethought him on the whips of steel,
Which he did know his body there should fee
The more he thought, the thoghts increas'd hi
Which made him sil unto himself cóplain( pai
While thus he spent his time in grief and fea
His *Mephostophiles* did to him appear,
And told him that his years were now expir'
And that his Master *Lucifer* desir'd
He would prepare himself and make an end,
For that his Master shortly did intend,
On such a night, to fetch him down to hell,
That with th' infernal spirits he might dwe
When *Faustus* had hard this he grew so sad,
That with his sorrows he grew almost mad.
He tumbled on his bed, all rest he did despis
No quyet slumber ever clos'd his eyes;
But he was still tormented in his mind,

5

n went before, and torture came behind.
et so it was, that one that very day
n which the devil should fetch him quite away
e sent unto his friends, intreating for his sake
hat of his Banquet they would all partake.
s merry Banquet is, it soon befell,
s afterward in due place I will tell
he Students being come, he made them all
s welcome as he could when he himself did
to a sudden dump, nor could he be
erry in their so beloved company:
o calling them into another room,
e did unfold to them his fearful doom.

*Doctor Faustus his Oration to his Friends and Fellow-students.*

MY friends, I must begin my Oration,
With a confession of my conjuration:
nce all of you do know my first beginning,
nd how I grew still worse and worse in sin:
nd unto Magick Arts I was so bent,
ought alwayes to further mine intent,
nd leaving better studies did apply
y self unto that hellish mystery.
hus did I live twenty four years and more,
ho sad expiring I must now deplore:
o so it is, to purchase my content,

Which

Which was, when twenty four years once di
Which time in conjuration I did spend, (en
The devil should have my body and my soul
And did confirm it by a bloody scroul:
And now the dismal term of years is done,
And night beginning, my hour glass is run:
This night I look that he for me should send,
And this my life will have a fearful end.
And now, my friends, this banquet I did mak
That I of you my last farewel might take,
Desiring pardon where I have offended,
Since my last act of life cannot be mended;
And for those practices which I have wrough
By conjuration, and thereby have brought
My heavy soul to grief and sad despair,
My life is written in a writing fair,
Which lyes within my study: so that you
May learn thereby such courses to eschew.
And if that I do you my counsel give,
And use that little time I have to live;
Be sure that you forsake all conjuration,
And pray to be delivered from temptation:
And let my death a warning be to all,
Since by desire of knowledge I did fall:
For now to give my speech a sad conclusion,
This night I must expect my own confusion:
And yet, my loving friends, I do request,
That you will go to bed, and take your rest:
Let nothing trouble you, nor do not fear,

If any trembling noise you chance to hear,
Be sure you do not rise out of your bed:
But when that I to Plutos court am fled,
If that you find my body the next day,
Be sure that you to earth do it convey.
And so, my friends I wish you all good rest:
Pray go to bed my soul is much oppress,
When as his friends had heard what he did say
They counsel'd him that he to God should pray:
But Faustus felt the weight of his sin;
That how to pray, he knew not to begin.
At last the students having pray'd did weep,
And after went to bed, but could not sleep.
For Faustus in the hall did stay alone (groan:
Where they might hear how he did sigh and
And so with wakeful eyes they did attend,
Expecting still to hear his fearful end.
At last between the hours of twelf and one,
A wind did rise, the like was never known,
It was so violent, which when they once did
The host & Students both began to fear, (hear
For Doctor Faustus in the hall did ly
Where they might hear his fearful Tragedy
For now the hall and upper rooms did shake,
And they did hear a hissing like a snake,
And then the hall door fiercely did fly open,
And Faustus murther cry'd which being spoken
They heard no more, so that the Scholars
Now Doctor Faustus is to hell convaid, (said,

The next day, when they came into the hall,
They might behold a fearful funeral.
His blood-discoloured were sprinkled on the ground
And there a highway might the same confound.
Here lay his teeth, and there his eyes did lie,
A spectacle of hellish cruelty.
Which when his friends beheld, they all did rue
And found his body on the dung-hill new.
To which his friends did Christian burial give,
Although himself did like a devil live.
Thus this story of his life have penn'd,
That we may see his life, and hate his end.

FINIS